

Subject: Your March Neighborhood First Newsletter

From: Mike Bonin's Neighborhoods First Newsletter <updates@11thdistrict.com>

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To: lisa@mediadistrict.org

- BRENTWOOD - DEL REY -
- MAR VISTA - MARINA PENINSULA -
- PACIFIC PALISADES -

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- PLAYA DEL REY - PLAYA VISTA -
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NEWSLETTER

Neighborhoods First

March 2016

Welcome to the March issue of Mike Bonin's "Neighborhoods First Newsletter"!

[Use this link](#) to read this issue on our website or share it with your friends on social media.

Before we get started, please take a moment to read more about Bill Rosendahl, Mike's predecessor, mentor and friend who passed away yesterday after a four-year battle with cancer. You can read a full obituary [here](#), or find out more at the bottom of this newsletter.

IN THIS ISSUE: We take a look at an inspirational story of tolerance drowning out hate in the Pacific Palisades, find out more about a plan to repair broken sidewalks in our neighborhoods and celebrate a "Pioneer Woman" from Playa del Rey... **but first**, please read this month's Neighborhoods First Profile, a touching interview with the first resident of Westchester.

You can find out more [about Mike](#), [meet your CD11 staff](#) and [see the latest videos](#) and updates from the Westside on our website at www.11thdistrict.com. And remember to [like Mike's Facebook page](#) and [follow him on Twitter](#) to always see the latest news about your neighborhood.



Gertrude Ratzlaff: The First Resident of Westchester

One of the many things that makes the Westside special is the rich history in each distinct neighborhood of the district. Wanting to learn a little more about the history of the area she was just promoted to work with, Mike's new field deputy for Westchester and Playa del Rey Anna Kozma sat down with Gertrude Ratzlaff - the first person to move into Westchester - to ask about the neighborhood's early days.



How did you come to Westchester?

I was born in North Dakota in 1916 and my family moved to Highland Park when I was nine. I worked at the Automobile Club of Southern California downtown for 10 years, and one day, my sister told me that a man she knew had seen my picture and asked if he could take me on a date to a Halloween party. I met Darrell in 1936 and we were married the next September. Darrell and I loved to go out dancing and he proposed to me at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel's Biltmore Bowl.

We moved to Manhattan Beach to rent in an apartment until we could afford a home, and one day in 1940, while driving down La Tijera, we noticed a large posted sign that said, "400 Homes to be Built, F.H.A. 10% down." We checked into it, and saw the homes the same developers built in Bell. The homes were well built, so we knew immediately the location of La Tijera and Manchester was for us. We picked out our lot on a map as soon as Si (Westchester developer Silas Nowell) called us to let us know he was ready to subdivide, and we started to build at 8406 Vicksburg Ave in January 1941. We finally moved in on April 24th, 1941. Harry and Olga Barner, our neighbors, moved in the same day.

Why did you decide to move to Westchester?

Darrell worked in the aerospace industry, so it was a good location. The cost of the houses was also low, and since we were newlyweds and did not have a lot to offer, that was good. Si even let us pay back what we owed on the house in war bonds. It cost a whopping \$4,900 for the entire property in 1940. The developers were great, and they named the plan of the house we moved into the "Ratzlaff Plan."

What was the neighborhood like back then?

There was almost nothing. When we first moved in, it was nothing but bean fields. As the neighborhood developed, a sense of community emerged. All the neighbors knew each other, the children would play kick the can under the street light at night, everyone had gardens in their backyards and grew their own vegetables, we had local parades down the street. The hog farm that had been nearby had since been relocated and Westport Heights Elementary built nearby.

I also remember taking a fun ride in a two passenger small plane back when LAX was simply the small Mines Field.

Darrell and I were the first ones to have a pool built in their backyard, and I taught all the neighborhood children to swim.

What has been the best change you've seen in the neighborhood since you moved in?

The wonderful stores and entertainment nearby. Darrell and I attended opening night at the Loyola Theater (ed note: now the "Abdi Loyola Medical Building.") As other people started seeing what a wonderful place we lived, more people began investing in the area and moving in.

What hasn't changed that you would like to see change in the future?

Nothing, Westchester is a beautiful place. I think so much of Westchester, it is truly a wonderful neighborhood.



Students Write Inspiring Messages of Love After Hateful Graffiti Found at Pali High



The Pacific Palisades community woke up to a shocking display on Monday, March 14, as hateful graffiti was discovered spray-painted on and around the campus at Palisades Charter High School. Pali High students, however, responded to the hate-speech graffiti in the most inspiring way possible, leading a peaceful protest and drawing chalk messages of love and tolerance to replace the hateful graffiti.

After hearing about the situation, Mike stepped up to support the students, authoring a motion asking for a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the people responsible for the hate-speech graffiti. Hours after the motion was introduced, two arrests were made in the case.

Find out more about the incident and see photos of the Pali High Student's inspiring images of tolerance at http://www.11thdistrict.com/palisades_hate_speech_reward.

Playa del Rey Resident Honored as CD11 "Pioneer Woman" for 2016



March is Women's History Month, and every year, the City Council recognizes the

contributions of some the amazing women who make our neighborhoods great places to live and work by designating one "Pioneer Woman" in each council district.

On March 23, Mike was honored to recognize Dr. Michele Cooley-Strickland, a Playa del Rey resident who has made her community a better place. Dr. Cooley-Strickland is a licensed psychologist with a remarkably impressive CV, which includes work as the principal investigator on grants funded by the National Institute of Mental Health designed to study the emotional and behavioral outcomes of young people's exposure to community violence.

Dr. Cooley-Strickland has gotten involved in the Playa del Rey and Westchester neighborhoods in just about every way possible, and is a member of the Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa, LAX Coastal Chamber of Commerce's Education Committee, Venice High School Comprehensive Modernization Project Advisory Group, LAUSD's Westchester, Playa del Rey, Playa Vista Instructional Pathways Collaborative Work Group, and the SoCal Gas Company's Community Westside Advisory Council.

Dr. Cooley-Strickland is truly a pioneer for women and girls everywhere, and her commitment to advancing her community, the Westside, and the City of Los Angeles, is awe-inspiring.

Mike Breaks Ground on New Venice Parking Lot



More parking is coming to Venice. Neighbors and businesses in Venice are demanding more parking to make life easier for residents and to support local businesses, and on March 21, Mike, Venice neighbors and City officials broke ground on Lot 760 - a new public parking lot on Irving Tabor Court. The new lot will have 50 metered parking spaces, bike racks, permeable concrete paving, lighting and landscaping, and will be a welcome addition to the community.

Play Ball! Mike Hosts Pop Up Office Hours at Little League Opening Days in Mar Vista and Del Rey

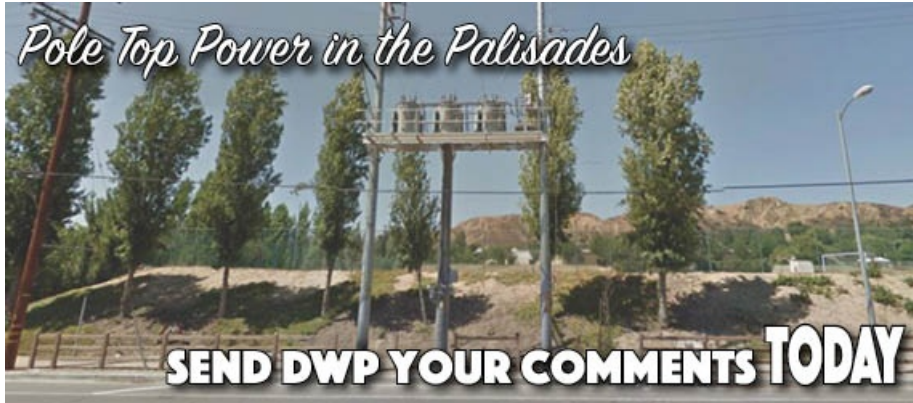


You shouldn't need to trek downtown to speak with your Councilmember, and Mike's Access 11 program is designed to bring City Hall to the Westside. This month, Mike

hosted Access 11 pop up office hours at two different opening day ceremonies at local Little Leagues - the Culver Marina league in Del Rey and Playa Vista, and the North Venice league in Mar Vista.

Hundreds of families stopped by during the two pop up office events to chat with Mike and to talk about ways that Mike can help make their neighborhoods better places to live and work.

Alternative Locations Considered for Pole-Top Substations in the Palisades - Send Your Comments to DWP by Tomorrow



Community input is essential as difficult decisions affecting neighborhoods are made, and Mike has insisted that the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power ask for input regarding a proposal for new temporary power infrastructure in the Pacific Palisades.

Earlier this month, the LADWP proposed installing two temporary pole-top substations in the Pacific Palisades to help address power reliability issues throughout the neighborhood.

When the proposal was first presented to the community, important questions were raised about the locations proposed for the temporary power infrastructure and if other alternative locations are feasible. Mike insisted that LADWP address community concerns by hosting a community meeting to directly answer questions from neighbors. That meeting was held in mid-March, and the information presented at the meeting about the DWP proposal and possible alternatives is now available online at www.ladwp.com/palisades.

Mike is encouraging everyone in the Palisades to take a moment to review the information and to consider the locations that were originally proposed - as well as the new alternatives being explored by DWP - and then send your comments and ideas to DWP at communityrelations@ladwp.com by tomorrow Friday, April 1, 2016.

Victory for Brentwood Neighbors and Protected Trees as Developer Held Accountable



The callous destruction of irreplaceable protected trees must have consequences, and Mike joined with Brentwood neighbors last month to urge the city to hold developers accountable for illegally removing protected trees.

Last month, the City's Bureau of Street Services considered penalties for the developer of a large compound in the Sullivan Canyon neighborhood of Brentwood after it was discovered that the developer had illegally removed two live oaks and one western sycamore - all protected trees. This developer ignored the law and Mike joined neighbors and environmental groups like the Natural Resources Defense Council to ask that the developer be held accountable.

On March 13, the Bureau of Street Services agreed with Mike and the neighbor's request, revoking permits for the site and saying that no development should be allowed at the location for the next five years.

Street Resurfacing Improves Roads Throughout Westside



Repairing our streets is one of the most important core responsibilities of local government, and the Bureau of Street Services was hard at work on the Westside in the past month. Streets in Westchester, Venice, the Pacific Palisades and Brentwood all got attention, which work ranging from complete repaving, to adding a fresh layer of asphalt on top of the existing street. Many of the streets were selected by local neighborhood councils as top priorities for the neighborhood.

Survey Launched to Help Address Westchester Traffic Issues



Over the last few months, Mike has been partnering with neighbors in the Westport Heights and Osage neighborhoods of Westchester to address the sudden and significant surge in traffic in those areas. Many neighborhoods endure cut through traffic, but something sudden and dramatic happened in Osage and Westport Heights last fall, when hundreds of motorists started suddenly using residential streets as short cuts. On March 23, Mike hosted a community meeting to discuss not only the traffic, but some proposed solutions being offered by the Department of Transportation.

If you live in the Westport Heights or Osage neighborhoods and were not able to make it

to the meeting, you can still voice your opinion in the online survey Mike launched to help gather input. Please visit www.11thdistrict.com/westchester_community_traffic_survey to find out more about the solutions being proposed and to tell us what you think.

Mike Talks Traffic at Brentwood Homeowners Association Meeting



Mike is working to address the intolerable gridlock on Sunset Boulevard in Brentwood, and he discussed the ongoing effort with neighbors in attendance at the Brentwood Homeowner's Association annual meeting on February 29. The meeting also included reports on development projects in the area, but the main focus was on traffic, and Mike encouraged all Brentwood neighbors to help by [completing an online survey he launched to get input on a variety of proposals that could reduce gridlock on Sunset](#).

New Traffic Signal Helps West LA Prepare for Expo Line Opening



New traffic signals are helping to improve street safety as the Westside prepares for the May 20 opening of the Expo Line Phase 2 extension, which will connect downtown LA with the beach in Santa Monica. On March 10, Mike joined a crew from the Los Angeles Department of Transportation to turn on a new traffic signal at Exposition and Centinela in West LA. The signal will help keep pedestrians and bicyclists safe as the neighborhood prepares for trains to finally come to West LA.

Mike Celebrates Mar Vista Co-Ed Soccer Champs



Local sports teams are a great source of pride for our neighborhoods, and the Mar Vista

Soccer League's Major co-ed all stars are giving Mar Vista a lot to be proud of recently. The All-Star team won the Valley Region Championship, and Mike helped the team unveil their championship banner and additionally honored the players, coaches and park staff on the title.

Del Rey Literacy Fair Offers Free Books, Celebrates the Written Word



The Mar Vista Family Center hosted a wonderful community event in Del Rey on March 19, celebrating reading and the Del Rey neighborhood at the 12th Annual Del Rey Literacy Fair. The fun-filled day featured food, art and crafts, as well as free books and educational materials for kids from 0-11. The event was co-hosted by the Del Rey Neighborhood Council.

Energy-Efficient LED Lights Installed in Playa Vista



New LED lights are not only more energy-efficient and environmentally-friendly, but the brighter light helps reduce crime and improve safety in neighborhoods. LED lights were installed in Playa Vista in March, with the Bureau of Street Lighting upgrading a series of street lights throughout the community.

Some of the lights will also get screens added soon, to prevent unwanted light from shining into nearby apartments.

City Agencies Respond and Repair Massive Sinkhole in Playa del Rey



Falmouth Avenue in Playa del Rey was temporarily out of commission in March, after rainstorms caused a sinkhole to destroy a section of the street. Thanks to quick notifications from neighbors like Nora MacLellan and Tracy Levin, Mike was able to direct the Bureau of Engineering and Bureau of Street Services to act with urgency to make the repairs, before further wet weather eroded the roadway even further.

After a week of hard work, the Bureau of Street Services and Bureau of Engineering repaired the street, allowing the Department of Transportation to reopen Falmouth to neighbors. Thank you again to the residents who helped report this issue and demanded swift action, and to the various City agencies who got the problem fixed quickly and professionally.

Mike Bonin's Neighborhoods First Newsletter

COMBATting HOMELESSNESS

Mike Announces Strategy to End Homelessness in Venice



Last month, the City and the County each approved comprehensive strategies to combat homelessness, but plans are only as good as the way they are implemented.

Mike hosted a community meeting on March 29 to explain the City's plan, and to announce how he will implement a wide variety of strategies that seek to end homelessness in Venice, which has one of the largest concentrations of homeless people in Los Angeles - and the largest is in his district. Mike's proposal includes protecting and creating affordable housing, building new housing for the homeless, expanding both outreach and services to people living on the street and street strategies such as providing storage and restrooms that will help keep neighborhoods clean.

Details about the plan are available at http://www.11thdistrict.com/venice_homelessness_plan and a video of the meeting will be made available on Mike's website soon.

Introducing Venice Forward

Introducing **Venice** **FORWARD**

One of the big announcements Mike made at his March 29 meeting in Venice was the unveiling of an organization he formed to help work toward ending homelessness in Venice.

Venice Forward is a collaborative of government agencies, nonprofits, residents and business who work together to move our homelessness neighbors more quickly into housing. Cooperative case management is key to getting results, and Venice Forward will be a big part of implementing the City's comprehensive homeless strategy in a community with more than 1,000 homeless residents - far more than any other neighborhood on the Westside.

Find out more about Venice Forward in [this video](#).

Revised City Law Continues Progress Toward Safer, Cleaner Streets and Protecting Homeless



As the City moves forward with its comprehensive strategy to combat homelessness, lawmakers continue working to find a balance between the need to keep streets clean and safe and the rights and needs of people who have no other option but to live on the street.

The City Council voted last month to revise an existing ordinance that outlines the process for cleaning streets and storing personal belongings in public storage. Under the revised ordinance, as long as there is not available voluntary storage nearby, people will be allowed to keep up to 60 gallons (about enough to fill a large blue recycling bin) with them on the street. If storage is made available and has space for people's belongings, the City will be able to further limit how much people are allowed to keep with them on the street. The City has an obligation to keep sidewalks accessible to everyone, and this new law will allow the City to ensure that sidewalks are not blocked by tents or structures during the day.

The law is an improvement from past versions, and the revision to the ordinance will protect the city's ability to apply for federal funding, but is still not perfect. Mike and his colleagues are continuing to work to strike the difficult balance between the rights of people living on the streets and the need for streets to be clean.

LAX UPDATE

New Website Tracks Sound Issues Near LAX



People living near LAX have a new resource to help report egregious noise from flights taking off and landing at the region's largest airport, thanks to a new website developed by Controller Ron Galperin and Los Angeles World Airports. The site, <http://airports.controlpanel.la/community-the-environment/>, tracks sound from airplanes in real time, as well as air quality measurements, and helps people report issues with noise directly to LAWA.

MOVING FORWARD: TRANSPORTATION

Metro Unveils Plan for Future of Public Transportation in LA



We need transportation options so we're not stuck forever in gridlock, and those options could be expanding dramatically.

An exciting future for public transportation in Los Angeles was announced on March 18, when the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority unveiled a bold and ambitious proposal to build a genuine, comprehensive network of mass transit in Los Angeles over the next several decades.

If approved by voters in the November election, the plan will fund a Metro station at LAX, extend the Wilshire subway, create a north-south mass transit from the San Fernando Valley to the Airport, improve bus operations, set aside money for active transportation projects, and a whole lot more. Mike is very excited about this plan, and looks forward to advocating for it vigorously.

Find out more about Metro's proposal at <http://theplan.metro.net>

Bike Share Temporary Locations Announced for Venice



Bike share programs are a tremendous way to help people get around town without contributing to traffic by driving a car. While the City of LA and LA Metro begin rolling out a bike share program in downtown, the City of Santa Monica has its bike share program already operating. Mike wants to make sure that his constituents can also benefit from bike share, and his staff has been working with the operator of Santa Monica's "Breeze" bike share program to ensure there are pick-up and drop-off locations for Breeze bikes in nearby neighborhoods like Venice.

In March, Breeze announced that they have made the sites of future Venice stations "drop zones," which means that people can park their Breeze bikes at any public bike rack in one of the drop zones for no extra fee while physical stations are built. Parking outside of a station costs an extra \$2. Venice drop zones - and future stations - are located at:

- Venice Blvd and Abbot Kinney Blvd
- California Ave and Abbot Kinney Blvd
- Windward Plaza
- Ocean Front Walk and Rose Ave
- Rose Ave and 5th St



Mike Announces Support for Palisades Village Project



The Pacific Palisades has rightly been called "Mayberry by the Sea" because of the small-town feel that makes this one of the most desirable communities in Los Angeles. Downtown Pacific Palisades has been in need of revitalization for years, and on March 24, Mike was proud to announce his support for a project that promises to do just that. The Palisades Village project will bring back an active 'Main Street' to the Palisades

community, and it is the vibrant community and commercial center that the people of the Palisades need and deserve.

In all of Mike's years serving the neighborhoods of the Westside, he has never seen or heard such overwhelmingly lopsided support FOR a project. For the past six months, Palisadians have been approaching Mike to voice their opinion on this project, and the feedback has been more than 90% in favor. In fact, the most common question Mike have been asked has been an impatient one: "What can you do to make it happen sooner?"

Read Mike's full statement in support of Palisades Village

here: http://www.11thdistrict.com/mike_announces_support_for_palisades_village_project

Community Weighs-in on Martin Cadillac Project - More Meetings Scheduled



Neighbors have been speaking up about a proposed mixed-use development project at the Martin Cadillac site on the corner of Olympic and Bundy. This project is proposing to build residential units, office space, and retail stores near the soon to be opened Expo station at Olympic and Bundy.

Mike feels strongly that transparency and public input are crucial components of the planning process - especially for a project of this size, so he has insisted that there be public meetings on the Westside to allow neighbors to offer input on the project, and meetings have been held in West LA and Brentwood in recent weeks. More opportunities to learn about the project and voice your opinion are on the horizon, and meetings will be held on April 7 in Mar Vista and April 16 in West LA. Details about each meeting can be found below.

Upcoming Martin Cadillac Development Proposal Community Meetings

- April 7 @ 6:00 p.m. – Mar Vista Town Hall Meeting – Mar Vista Branch Library – 12006 Venice Blvd., Los Angeles

- April 16 @ 12:00 p.m. (noon) – West L.A. Town Hall Meeting – Felicia Mahood Senior Center – 11338 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles



Find Out More About the City Council's Work to Put Neighborhoods First

Sidewalk Repair Priorities Outlined



It's long past due to start fixing the horrible sidewalks in Los Angeles and its many neighborhoods, and thanks to a comprehensive repair policy adopted by the Council, relief could be coming to your neighborhood soon.

On March 14, the Budget and Finance Committee (on which Mike serves) and the Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee hosted a joint committee hearing to discuss repairing sidewalks. At the meeting, Mike joined some of his colleagues to outline what they want to see in a sidewalk repair policy for our neighborhoods, proposing a a comprehensive, cost-effective, environmentally-progressive and equitable policy with 11 important elements. The Council approved the Committee's recommendations on March 29.

Find out more about each element of the adopted proposal here: http://www.11thdistrict.com/sidewalk_repair_policy

Mike's Parking Reform Legislation Advances



Parking in Los Angeles is a universal frustration and Mike is working to make parking in our neighborhoods more simple and more fair.

On March 23, Mike chaired a meeting of the Transportation Committee and considered a few of the seven motions he introduced to reform parking in LA, which grew out of recommendations made by the Parking Reform Working Group. The Committee heard reports from the LA Department of Transportation and advanced Mike's proposal to "Code the Curb," or conduct a digital inventory of parking rules on streets in LA. The digital inventory will then allow parking apps to be developed, which have the potential to revolutionize parking (such as allowing people to remotely feed a meter with a smartphone app).

Protecting Ballona and Other Priceless Open Space on the Westside



Mike will join Representative Ted Lieu today to announce the introduction of a new bill that will protect some of the treasured open spaces on the Westside, including the Ballona Wetlands. Representative Lieu's legislation would study formally expanding the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to include coastal areas throughout the South Bay, which would encourage increased protection and preservation of the area.

The bill, which is co-sponsored by Representatives Janice Hahn, Adam Schiff, Maxine Waters and Karen Bass, is a tremendous piece of legislation for our local environment and Mike will soon introduce a resolution to the City Council asking for the City to formally support Representative Lieu's effort.

Los Angeles Becomes Largest City to Create Transgender Advisory Council



The City of Los Angeles took a big step toward greater inclusion in local government in March, announcing the creation of a Transgender Advisory Council.

Mike joined Mayor Garcetti, Controller Ron Galperin, Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell and members of the newly-formed Council on March 15 to celebrate the creation of the panel, which will help ensure the Mayor's office, the City Council and the Human Relations Commission are hearing from people who live every day with the stigma and disrespect we are seeking to overcome.



March Small Business Spotlights

Local small businesses provide more than jobs for people on the Westside - they are part of what make neighborhoods great. Each week, Mike chooses a local Mom and Pop business to feature on social media in his "[Small Business Spotlight](#)."



Westchester

SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

CREATING JOBS, BUILDING COMMUNITIES AND PUTTING NEIGHBORHOODS FIRST



Aleja's
PRESTO TRATTORIA
ITALIAN
RESTAURANT

8343 Lincoln Blvd
Westchester, CA 90045
310-670-6677



Pacific Palisades

SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

CREATING JOBS, BUILDING COMMUNITIES AND PUTTING NEIGHBORHOODS FIRST



**NORRIS
HARDWARE**

FAMILY OPERATED SINCE 1925

15140 WEST SUNSET BLVD
PACIFIC PALISADES, CA 90272
310-454-4116



Mar Vista

SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

CREATING JOBS, BUILDING COMMUNITIES AND PUTTING NEIGHBORHOODS FIRST



**Full-Circle
POTTERY**

www.full-circlepottery.com
12023 Venice Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90066

Playa Vista

Samy's Camera

SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

CREATING JOBS, BUILDING COMMUNITIES AND PUTTING NEIGHBORHOODS FIRST

Ballona Creek
Alseco
12636 Beatrice Street
Telephone: 310-450-7062

[Do you have a favorite business you want to nominate to be featured in Mike's Small Business Spotlight? You can make a nomination for the "Small Business Spotlight" at this link.](#)

Mike Bonin's Neighborhoods First Newsletter

CONNECT & GET INVOLVED

Run for Neighborhood Council!

Run to be a part of your
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Westside Candidate Registration Open!

Region 11
Westchester/Playa

EMPOWER LA
Department of NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

When the City Charter was adopted, a process was outlined to engage neighbors in monitoring important issues in their communities, such as public safety, land use and development, transportation, and parking. Neighborhood Councils are official bodies that work with Council Offices to ensure neighborhoods are part of the decisions affecting Los Angeles, and the board members who volunteer to serve their communities help make LA a better place to live, work and enjoy.

Registration for Westside Neighborhood Council elections began on February 21 and will be open until the elections on June 5. Please consider running for a seat and helping Mike put neighborhoods first on the Westside.

The deadline to file you paperwork to run for a seat is April 6.

Find out more and register at EmpowerLA at <http://empowerla.org/elections/>

Helpful Links

- [Contact Us](#) - Submit a comment, question or concern, using our helpful website form.
- [Maps and Directions](#) - Visit us in one of our two district offices, or downtown at City

Hall.

- [Request City Services](#) - Have a pothole that needs to be filled or a tree that needs to be trimmed? Submit a service request directly to the city.
- [Sign Up for Updates](#) - You are already signed up if you received this email, but are all of your friends? Forward this message, or share this link with your neighbors so they can get the latest news about their neighborhood as well.

Mike Bonin's Neighborhoods First Newsletter

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Find out about just some of the events happening in your neighborhood in the next month!

- **Access 11 - Mar Vista Community Canvass**
 - **When:** Saturday, April 2; 10am
 - **Where:** St. Bede's Church (3590 Grand View Blvd.)
 - **RSVP:** http://www.11thdistrict.com/a11_mv_canvass
- **Westchester Park's LA Tennis Open House**
 - **When:** Sunday, April 3; 3pm - 5pm
 - **Where:** Westchester Tennis Center (7000 W. Manchester Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90045)
 - **RSVP:** (310) 665-9001
- **Neighborhood Council Candidate Registration Deadline**
 - **When:** April 6
 - **Find Out More:** <http://empowerla.org/elections/>
- **Martin Town Center Community Meeting - Mar Vista**
 - **When:** April 7; 6pm
 - **Where:** Mar Vista Branch Library (12006 Venice Blvd., Los Angeles)
- **Earth Month Ballona Creek Community Cleanup**
 - **When:** Saturday, April 9; 9am - 12pm
 - **Where:** Centinela Avenue Bike Path Entrance (Centinela Avenue at Milton Street, Del Rey)
 - **Find Out More:** http://www.11thdistrict.com/bcr_cleanup_4_9
- **Martin Town Center Community Meeting - Mar Vista**
 - **When:** April 16; 12pm
 - **Where:** Felicia Mahood Senior Center (11338 Santa Monica Blvd.)

Have an event you would like listed? Email updates@11thdistrict.com to submit events.

Remembering Bill Rosendahl



Bill Rosendahl, the well-loved and larger-than-life former Councilman, public affairs broadcaster, and cable television executive, passed away early Wednesday morning after

a four year battle with cancer. He was 70 years old.

Widely known for his beaming smile and a booming voice, Bill befriended both the powerful and the downtrodden throughout his lifetime and during his eight year stint representing the Westside on the City Council.

Often called the “Conscience of the City Council,” Bill focused on seeking solutions to the problem of homelessness, promoting mass transit, curbing overdevelopment, and giving neighborhoods a greater voice in city decision-making. He was the first openly gay man elected to the Los Angeles City Council, and served from 2005 to 2013, when he retired to battle a stage four cancer that was diagnosed in the summer of 2012. Toward the end of his tenure in office, he became an outspoken advocate for medical marijuana, which he used to combat the side effects of cancer treatments.

Funeral and memorial arrangements are pending, but will include a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Monica's Church in Santa Monica, and a lovely and colorful memorial service and celebration of life at Mar Vista Park.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory can be made to any of his favorite organizations helping the homeless; Safe Place for Youth; New Directions for Veterans; and the Jeff Griffith Youth Center at the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center.

[Find out more about Bill's amazing life and see a tribute video here.](#)

Thank you for reading the March issue of Mike Bonin's Neighborhoods First Newsletter.

For more about Mike and Council District 11, please visit www.11thdistrict.com

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